

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for a client device, comprising:
first requesting by the client device, a first content from a content provider, the first content arranged in a hierarchical structure;
providing by the client device, a characteristic profile to the content provider indicating characteristics of the client;
receiving by the client device, a first reply from the content provider responsive to the first requesting, the first reply including a query for a characteristic of the client;
second requesting by the client device, the first content from the content provider, the second requesting incorporating a query result for the query; and
second receiving by the client device, a second reply from the content provider responsive to the second requesting, the second reply including the first content or portion thereof, wherein the first content or portion thereof is determined based at least in part on the characteristic; and
determining by the client device, if the content provider wants the query result to be automatically incorporated into a third requesting of second content from the content provider that is lower in the hierarchical structure than the first content.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
third requesting a second content from the content provider, wherein the third requesting automatically incorporates the query result for the query.
3. ~~(Cancelled) The method of claim 1, wherein for content that is arranged in a hierarchical structure, the method further comprising:
~~determining if the content provider wants the query result to be automatically incorporated into a third requesting of second content from the content provider that is lower in the hierarchical structure than the first content.~~~~

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
determining if the content provider is caching the query result, and if so,
determining if the query result has changed since the first requesting; and
wherein if the query result has not changed, said third request does not
incorporate the query result for the query.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein if the query result has changed, said
third request automatically incorporates the query result for the query.
6. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
determining if the content provider is caching the query result, and if so,
determining if the query result has changed since the first requesting; and
wherein if the query result has not changed, said third request does not
incorporate the query result for the query, and wherein if the query result has changed,
said third request automatically incorporates the query result for the query.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
storing the query result in a HyperText Transport Protocol (HTTP) request
header provided to the content provider.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the query is received in a HyperText
Transport Protocol (HTTP) response header provided by the content provider.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the content and receiving
the first reply is performed according to the Composite Capability/Preference Profiles
(CC/PP) protocol.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the characteristic profile includes an
entry indicating whether the client can be queried for an operational characteristic.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the characteristic profile is formatted as a UAProf profile.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first reply comprises a selected one of the content or a frame-set for the content.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the characteristic is a selected one of processor type, processor speed, processor mode, available memory, available storage, or available network connectivity.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the characteristic is a selected one of availability of: peer clients, a camera, a microphone, a text to speech converter, a speech to text converter, a soft radio, a graphics processor.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the characteristic is availability of an encryption processor.
16. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
receiving, by a content provider, from a client a first request for first content and a characteristic profile indicating characteristics of the client;
providing, by the content provider, a first response to the first request of the client, the first response lacking all of the requested first content, but wherein the first response incorporates a query for a characteristic of the client;
receiving, by the content provider, a second request for the first content, wherein the second request incorporates a query result for the query; and
providing, by the content provider, the first content to the client in accord with the query result.
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
wherein the characteristic profile indicates the client may be queried for characteristics not identified in the characteristic profile;

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the characteristic reflects an operational characteristic of the client.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the operational characteristic is a real-time attribute which changes while the client is operating.
20. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the operational characteristic is a selected one of available power, available memory, processor type or processor speed.
21. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
issuing a set-cookie command to the client to associate at least the first content with a cookie, wherein the cookie indicates the query result will be cached for all content associated with the cookie.
22. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a content provider communicatively coupled with a client;
wherein the content provider is operative to perform receiving from the client a first request for first content and a characteristic profile indicating characteristics of the first client, determining whether the client may be queried for characteristics, providing a response to the first request to of the client, the response lacking all of the requested first content, but wherein the response incorporating a query for a characteristic of the client, receiving a second request for the first content incorporating a query result for the query, and providing the first content to the client in accord with the query result; and
wherein the client is operative to perform parsing the response to determine the query, determining the query result, and providing the query result to the content provider in at least a second request for content.
23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the client and content provider utilize HTTP to exchange data in accord with the CC/PP protocol.

24. (Original) A system comprising:

a proxy for managing communication with a content provider, the proxy operable to parse data received from a content provider to determine a query for a characteristic of the system, and to provide a query result to the content provider incorporating the characteristic of the system;

at least one agent for inspecting the system for various characteristics of the system; and

a manager having an interface communicatively coupled with the proxy to allow the proxy to direct the manager to dynamically instantiate an agent to determine the query result responsive to the query.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24, the system further comprising a memory for storing directives for at least the manager, the directives including:

a first directive to store a copy of a default characteristic profile for the system into the memory;

a second directive to identify an entry in the copy for which the agent is required to determine a value;

a third directive to dynamically load the agent to determine the value;

a fourth directive to store the value in the copy of the default characteristics profile.

26. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-accessible media having associated data, wherein the data, when accessed, results in a machine performing:

first requesting a first content from a content provider, the first content being arranged in a hierarchical structure;

providing a characteristic profile to the content provider indicating characteristics of the client;

receiving a first reply from the content provider responsive to the first requesting, the first reply including a query for a characteristic of the client;

second requesting the first content from the content provider, the second requesting incorporating a query result for the query; and

receiving a second reply from the content provider responsive to the second requesting, the second reply including the first content, wherein the first content is determined based at least in part on the characteristic; and

first determining if the content provider wants the query result to be automatically incorporated into a third requesting of second content from the content provider that is lower in the hierarchical structure than the first content.

27. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 26 wherein the machine-accessible media further includes data, when accessed, results in the machine performing:

second determining the content is arranged in thea hierarchical structure; and
~~determining if the content provider wants the query result to be automatically incorporated into the query result into thea third requesting of second content from the content provider based on results of said first determining that is lower in the hierarchical structure than the first content.~~

28. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-accessible media having associated data, wherein the data, when accessed, results in a machine performing:

receiving from a client a first request for first content and a characteristic profile indicating characteristics of the client;

determining the client may be queried for characteristics not identified in the characteristic profile;

providing a first response to the first request of the client, the first response lacking all of the requested first content, but wherein the first response incorporates a query for a characteristic of the client;

receiving a second request for the first content, wherein the second request incorporates a query result for the query; and

providing the first content to the client in accord with the query result.

29. (Original) The article of claim 28 wherein the machine-accessible media further includes data, when accessed, results in the machine performing:

issuing a set-cookie command to the client to associate at least the first content with a cookie, wherein the cookie indicates the query result will be cached for all content associated with the cookie.